



SUSAN STACK
CHAIRMAN

STATE OF CONNECTICUT – COUNTY OF TOLLAND
INCORPORATED

TOWN OF ELLINGTON

Human Services Commission

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HOCINE BAOUCHE
YALE CANTOR
TERESA CAVANAGH
HELEN FILLORAMO
SUSAN HANNIGAN
RICHARD PETRUCCI

HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION

Monday, January 12, 2015

Minutes of the Meeting

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by Sue Stack, Chairman at 6:05 P.M.

PRESENT: Yale Cantor, Sue Stack, Teresa Cavanagh, Richard Petrucci, Hocine Baouche

OTHERS PRESENT: Jamie Foster, prospective new member

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motioned (R. Petrucci), Seconded (H. Baouche) and passed by those present to accept the minutes of the November 10, 2014 meeting.

Jamie Foster introduced herself to the group and expressed her interest in filling the vacancy on the Human Services Commission.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT: The Energy Program has taken 178 applications. They have submitted 28 applications for the CL&P matching program for families whose expenses and monthly bill exceed their income. There has been minimal demand for fuel deliveries during the extreme cold periods due to proactive actions taken by the Human Services Department to contact vulnerable residents before they run out of fuel.

The Holiday Season of Sharing went very well. All donations and pick-ups went smoothly and generous cash donations for the food and fuel bank were received.

The department is currently looking for a more permanent solution for food item storage due to limited space in the basement.

The Senior Center is averaging 28 individuals for lunch on Wednesdays and Thursdays. The cost is \$4 for a delicious homemade meal. They are hoping that new programs will help to bring in a bigger lunch crowd.

The Senior Center is looking into starting a Bingo program. There is a local church selling their Bingo equipment. Bingo attendance numbers have decreased in Connecticut. Careful review and research will be needed before a decision is made on Bingo.

On February 28 from 6:00 – 9:00 p.m., Youth Services is hosting a Gallery Night at the Senior Center. The event is free for the community and features local artists' drawings, paintings, sculptures and other pieces of artwork. Entertainment will be provided.

Erin Graziani has put together a priority list for the Senior Center. First, the kitchen area needs a washer and dryer. Next, the health room needs to be furnished. Lastly, the patio area will get a gazebo. The side parking area is currently being worked on. The generator and gas conversion are currently on hold while solar heating options are being investigated.

There are some staffing changes occurring at the Senior Center. Jean Baseel is retiring and Samantha Baer's job will be reclassified to Assistant Director. They will be hiring a bookkeeper for 10 hours a week.

The first draft of the Policies and Building Use for the Senior Center has been finished and sent for review.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: Budget – Nine contract agencies applied for funds, including 8 regular agencies and one new one, The Cornerstone Foundation. Doris recommends all regular agencies stay at their current funding and The Cornerstone Foundation receives \$750. Motioned (Y. Cantor) Seconded (R. Petrucci) and passed by all present.

Doris and Erin have a meeting next Monday concerning utility costs at the Senior Center.

The Senior Center will have an increase in contractual services and staffing, but other than that Human Services should not have any other increases.

The next meeting is February 9 and the preliminary budget should be ready for review.

Sue Stack motioned that the Human Services Commission accepts Jamie Foster as the newest member, Seconded (H. Baouche) and passed by all present.

ADJOURNMENT: Motioned (R. Petrucci), Seconded (Y. Cantor) and passed by all those present to adjourn at 6:56 P.M.

Submitted by,

Teresa Cavanagh
Secretary